

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 5, 2016  
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 1, 2016  
CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 1894**

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**Introduced by Committee on Agriculture**

February 11, 2016

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An act to amend Sections 33704, 36806, 48003, 61345, 61412, 61805, and 62211 of, ~~and~~ to add Section 61306.5 to, *and to repeal Section 33704.5 of*, the Food and ~~Agriculture~~ *Agricultural Code*, *and to amend Section 51203 of the Government Code*, relating to food and agriculture, and making an appropriation therefor.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1894, as amended, Committee on Agriculture. Food and agriculture: omnibus bill.

*(1) Existing law regulates the production, handling, and marketing of milk and dairy products and requires milk products plants to comply with specified standards and requirements. Existing law authorizes the Secretary of Food and Agriculture to issue a limited packaging permit to a semifrozen milk products plant for on-premises manufacture and packaging of hard frozen dairy products or hard frozen dairy product novelties if certain requirements are satisfied.*

*This bill would delete a requirement that an establishment be closed to the public when the hard frozen dairy product novelties are manufactured and packaged and would delete a requirement that a manufacturer that directly serves frozen yogurt or nondairy frozen dessert on its premises post specified signs on the premises.*

(2) Existing law requires certain unfrozen product mixes used in the manufacture of specified frozen dairy products to comply with all of the requirements for ice cream, frozen dairy dessert, or frozen dessert, respectively.

This bill would require frozen yogurt mix to comply with all of the requirements for frozen yogurt.

~~(1) Existing law establishes the California Citrus Advisory Committee and requires the committee to develop and make recommendations to the Secretary of Food and Agriculture regarding procedures for implementing an inspection program. Existing law requires producers of navel oranges, Valencia oranges, lemons, or mandarin citrus varieties grown in this state and prepared for fresh market in certain counties of the state to pay an assessment, as provided. Existing law requires the assessment to be collected from the producer by the first handler, and requires that the assessment be remitted to the Department of Food and Agriculture by the first handler, along with an assessment form, at the end of each month during the marketing season. Existing law requires any handler that does not file the required assessment report and assessments by the 10th day of the month following the month for which the assessment is payable to pay a penalty of 10% of the assessment owed, and, in addition, 1.5% interest per month on the unpaid balance.~~

~~This bill would instead require a handler to file the required assessment form and pay the assessment and inspection fees by the last day of the month immediately following the month in which the commodities were received, and would additionally apply the 10% penalty and 1.5% interest to a failure to pay an inspection fee. The bill would make a handler personally liable for the payment of assessments and inspection fees.~~

~~(2)~~

~~(3) Existing law regulates the production, handling, and marketing of milk and dairy products and requires every milk handler subject to that regulatory scheme to pay specified assessments and fees to the secretary to cover the costs of regulating milk. In that regard, existing law requires every milk handler who receives manufacturing milk subject to the milk marketing regulatory requirements or a handler subject to a milk stabilization and marketing plan, including producer-handlers, to deduct a specified assessment from payments made to producers for manufacturing milk or market milk, respectively. Existing law establishes the Department of Food and Agriculture Fund as a special fund, and continuously appropriates moneys in the fund for~~

the administration and enforcement of, among other things, laws regulating the marketing of milk and other dairy products and the stabilization and marketing of market milk.

This bill would, for purposes of those provisions, define the term “educational and research activities” and would additionally provide for the regulation of milk and dairy products-related educational and research activities. The bill would authorize the use of moneys from the above-described assessments and fees for administering and enforcing the manufacturing milk and market milk laws, including the regulation of those educational and research activities. By authorizing the expenditure of moneys from the fund for a new purpose, that is, for milk and dairy-related educational and research activities, the bill would make an appropriation.

*(4) Existing law establishes the California Citrus Advisory Committee and requires the committee to develop and make recommendations to the Secretary of Food and Agriculture regarding procedures for implementing an inspection program. Existing law requires producers of navel oranges, Valencia oranges, lemons, or mandarin citrus varieties grown in this state and prepared for fresh market in certain counties of the state to pay an assessment, as provided. Existing law requires the assessment to be collected from the producer by the first handler and requires that the assessment be remitted to the Department of Food and Agriculture by the first handler, along with an assessment form, at the end of each month during the marketing season. Existing law requires any handler that does not file the required assessment report and assessments by the 10th day of the month following the month for which the assessment is payable to pay a penalty of 10% of the assessment owed and, in addition, 1.5% interest per month on the unpaid balance.*

*This bill would instead require a handler to file the required assessment form and pay the assessment and inspection fees by the last day of the month immediately following the month in which the commodities were received and would additionally apply the 10% penalty and 1.5% interest to a failure to pay an inspection fee. The bill would make a handler personally liable for the payment of assessments and inspection fees.*

*(5) The California Land Conservation Act of 1965, also known as the Williamson Act, authorizes a city or county to contract with a landowner for the continued use of the land for agricultural use in exchange for a lower assessed valuation for property tax purposes.*

*Existing law requires the Department of Conservation to provide a preliminary valuation of the land to the county assessor and the city council or county board of supervisors at least 60 days prior to the effective date of the agreed upon cancellation valuation if the contract includes an additional cancellation fee.*

*This bill would specify that the Department of Conservation is required to provide the preliminary valuation pursuant to those provisions only if the department and landowner agree upon a cancellation value pursuant to a specified provision, as specified.*

Vote: majority. Appropriation: yes. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1     SECTION 1. Section 33704 of the Food and Agricultural Code  
2     is amended to read:

3     33704. (a) (1) Sections 33701, 33731, 33732, 33733, 33734,  
4     33767, 33768, 33770, 33771, 33776, and 34593 do not apply to  
5     the manufacture of ice cream that is manufactured from ice cream  
6     mix, to frozen dairy dessert that is manufactured from frozen dairy  
7     dessert mix, to frozen dessert that is manufactured from frozen  
8     dessert mix, to frozen yogurt that is manufactured from frozen  
9     yogurt mix, or to nondairy frozen dessert that is manufactured  
10    from nondairy frozen dessert mix, if those products are  
11    manufactured in a freezing device from which those products are  
12    served directly in a semifrozen state, without packaging of any  
13    type, for consumption on the premises in or from rooms where  
14    food is served to the public.

15    ~~Except~~

16    (2) ~~Except~~ for nondairy frozen dessert mix, all mixes ~~so used~~  
17    shall be secured from a licensed manufacturer of milk products.

18    ~~Ice~~

19    (3) Ice cream mix, frozen yogurt mix, frozen dairy dessert mix,  
20    frozen dessert mix, and nondairy frozen dessert mix shall be  
21    manufactured into a semifrozen state without adulteration and  
22    freezing device salvage shall not be reused as a mix.

23    (b) A limited packaging permit may be issued by the secretary  
24    to a semifrozen (soft-serve) milk products plant for on-premises  
25    manufacture and packaging of hard frozen dairy products or hard  
26    frozen dairy product novelties. The permit may only be issued

1 after the suitability of the facility for manufacture and packaging  
2 has been determined by the secretary. An annual onsite evaluation  
3 of compliance with the specific permit conditions shall be  
4 completed by the secretary ~~prior to~~ *before* renewal of the limited  
5 packaging permit. A semifrozen milk products plant issued a  
6 limited packaging permit shall meet all of the following standards:

7 ~~(1) The manufacturing and packaging of hard frozen dairy~~  
8 ~~product novelties shall be done when the establishment is closed~~  
9 ~~to the public.~~

10 ~~(2)~~

11 (1) The hard frozen products shall only be sold to purchasers  
12 for consumption. No hard frozen product manufactured pursuant  
13 to the limited packaging permit shall be sold for resale.

14 ~~(3)~~

15 (2) All frozen dairy product mixes used for the manufacture  
16 and packaging of hard frozen dairy product novelties shall be  
17 dispensed from single service containers sealed at the licensed  
18 milk products plant where processed and pasteurized.  
19 Reconstitution of dry mix or condensed mix is prohibited at a  
20 semifrozen milk products plant issued a limited packaging permit.

21 ~~(4)~~

22 (3) Adequate facilities, consistent with recognized good  
23 manufacturing practices for the production and packaging of hard  
24 frozen dairy products, as determined by the secretary, shall be  
25 provided as a condition of the limited packaging permit. The  
26 facilities shall include, but are not limited to, adequate utensil and  
27 novelty mold washing, sterilization and storage, and sufficient  
28 sanitary work area, including handwashing facilities, dedicated to  
29 the manufacture and packaging of hard frozen dairy product  
30 novelties. Sanitation guidelines consistent with good manufacturing  
31 and handling practices for retail food establishments manufacturing  
32 and packaging hard frozen dairy products in conformance with  
33 Part 110 (commencing with Section 110.3) of Title 21 of the Code  
34 of Federal Regulations shall be utilized by the secretary as a  
35 condition for issuance and renewal of the limited packaging permit.

36 ~~(5)~~

37 (4) Each individually packaged hard frozen novelty shall be  
38 labeled with the name of the product and the name and address of  
39 the manufacturer.

1 (c) Nondairy frozen dessert mix shall be obtained from  
 2 manufacturers licensed pursuant to Sections 38931 and 38934.  
 3 Any dry or condensed mix to be reconstituted into freezable form  
 4 shall be reconstituted on the premises in containers or equipment  
 5 that meet the requirements of Sections 33763, 33764, 33765, and  
 6 33766. Any water used for reconstitution shall be treated in a  
 7 manner to ensure a quality equal to potable pasteurized water.  
 8 Upon reconstitution, the product shall be poured directly into the  
 9 freezing unit or refrigerated at a temperature not to exceed 45  
 10 degrees Fahrenheit, and so maintained until frozen, or both.

11 (d) Where any retail establishment manufactures two or more  
 12 of the products provided for under this section, each of those  
 13 products shall be processed in a separate freezing device, and that  
 14 freezing device shall be clearly identified as to the product being  
 15 manufactured therein.

16 (e) The secretary may, by agreement with any approved milk  
 17 inspection service, authorize the service to inspect and enforce  
 18 requirements of this code applicable to the establishments covered  
 19 by this section. Any agreement shall provide that the approved  
 20 inspection service shall collect the applicable license fee for those  
 21 establishments as provided in Sections 35221 and 38933. The fees  
 22 so collected shall be retained by the approved service to cover its  
 23 cost of enforcement, but 15 percent of the fees collected shall be  
 24 remitted to the secretary to cover the cost of administration.

25 *SEC. 2. Section 33704.5 of the Food and Agricultural Code is*  
 26 *repealed.*

27 ~~33704.5. (a) Any person who manufactures and directly serves~~  
 28 ~~frozen yogurt or nondairy frozen dessert in the manner specified~~  
 29 ~~in Section 33704, shall post on the premises where the manufacture~~  
 30 ~~and service takes place a sign, or signs, which (1) states that frozen~~  
 31 ~~yogurt or nondairy frozen dessert is served on the premises and~~  
 32 ~~(2) lists the ingredients in each of the products served.~~

33 ~~(b) The sign required to be posted pursuant to subdivision (a)~~  
 34 ~~shall be placed in a conspicuous location, such as on a menu or~~  
 35 ~~other sales device, and shall be printed in a legible manner that is~~  
 36 ~~understandable under normal conditions by the person purchasing~~  
 37 ~~the frozen products.~~

38 *SEC. 3. Section 36806 of the Food and Agricultural Code is*  
 39 *amended to read:*

1 36806. Ice cream mix, *frozen yogurt mix*, frozen dairy dessert  
2 mix, and frozen dessert mix are unfrozen products that are used  
3 in the manufacture of ice cream, *frozen yogurt*, frozen dairy dessert,  
4 or frozen dessert. They shall comply with all the requirements for  
5 ice cream, *frozen yogurt*, frozen dairy dessert, or frozen dessert,  
6 respectively.

7 ~~SECTION 1.~~

8 *SEC. 4.* Section 48003 of the Food and Agricultural Code is  
9 amended to read:

10 48003. (a) Every person acting as a handler of commodities  
11 subject to this chapter shall be personally liable for the payment  
12 of assessments and inspection fees. Any handler who fails to file  
13 the required assessment form or pay an assessment or inspection  
14 fee by the last day of the month immediately following the month  
15 in which the commodities were received shall pay to the secretary  
16 a penalty of 10 percent of the assessment, inspection fee, or the  
17 sum of both the assessment fee and the inspection fee, owed and,  
18 in addition, 1.5 percent interest per month on the unpaid balance.

19 (b) It shall be unlawful for a handler to refuse to collect the  
20 assessments or remit the assessments and the proper forms required  
21 by this chapter.

22 (c) A handler shall not charge a producer an administrative fee  
23 for collecting or remitting an assessment.

24 (d) A producer who disputes the amount of the assessment may  
25 file a claim with the secretary. The producer shall prove his or her  
26 claim by a preponderance of the evidence.

27 (e) A producer may not bring a claim against a handler for  
28 damages, or otherwise, in connection with the assessment or the  
29 required deduction by the handler of the moneys owed to the  
30 producer.

31 ~~SEC. 2.~~

32 *SEC. 5.* Section 61306.5 is added to the Food and Agricultural  
33 Code, to read:

34 61306.5. “Educational and research activities” means any effort  
35 to develop and improve the management practices of dairy  
36 producers and processors, including, but not limited to, practices  
37 associated with the environmental sustainability of land, air quality,  
38 and water quality.

1     ~~SEC. 3.~~

2     *SEC. 6.* Section 61345 of the Food and Agricultural Code is  
3 amended to read:

4     61345. (a) Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 61801),  
5 Chapter 2.5 (commencing with Section 62500), and Chapter 3  
6 (commencing with Section 62700) shall be liberally construed as  
7 being complementary of, and supplemental to, this chapter, and  
8 these chapters shall constitute a single comprehensive scheme for  
9 the regulation of the production and handling of milk and related  
10 educational and research activities. However, each of the chapters,  
11 and each article, section, subdivision, sentence, clause, and phrase  
12 of each chapter is severable.

13     (b) If one of the chapters or any article, section, subdivision,  
14 sentence, clause, or phrase of any one of the chapters is for any  
15 reason held void, invalid, or unconstitutional, the decision shall  
16 not affect the validity of any other chapter or any of its articles,  
17 sections, subdivisions, sentences, clauses, or phrases.

18     ~~SEC. 4.~~

19     *SEC. 7.* Section 61412 of the Food and Agricultural Code is  
20 amended to read:

21     61412. (a) (1) Every milk handler who receives manufacturing  
22 milk subject to this article shall deduct as an assessment from  
23 payments made to producers for manufacturing milk the sum of  
24 one and two-tenths cents (\$0.012) per hundredweight of  
25 manufacturing milk.

26     (2) The amount of the assessments deducted pursuant to  
27 paragraph (1) shall be paid to the secretary on or before the 45th  
28 day following the last day of the month during which the  
29 manufacturing milk was received.

30     (b) (1) Every milk handler who receives manufacturing milk  
31 subject to this article that purchases or handles manufacturing milk  
32 from producers shall pay a fee of six-tenths of one cent (\$0.006)  
33 per hundredweight of manufacturing milk.

34     (2) The amount of the fee shall be paid to the secretary on or  
35 before the 45th day following the last day of the month in which  
36 the manufacturing milk was received.

37     (c) Moneys from the amounts paid to the secretary pursuant to  
38 subdivisions (a) and (b) may be used to administer and enforce  
39 this chapter.

1 ~~SEC. 5.~~

2 *SEC. 8.* Section 61805 of the Food and Agricultural Code is  
3 amended to read:

4 61805. The purposes of this chapter are to do all of the  
5 following:

6 (a) Provide funds for administration and enforcement of this  
7 chapter, by assessments to be paid by producers and handlers of  
8 market milk in the manner prescribed in this chapter.

9 (b) Authorize and enable the secretary to prescribe marketing  
10 areas and to determine minimum prices to be paid to producers by  
11 handlers for market milk that are necessary due to varying factors  
12 of costs of production, health regulations, transportation, and other  
13 factors in the marketing areas of this state. In determining minimum  
14 prices to be paid producers by handlers, the secretary shall endeavor  
15 under like conditions to achieve uniformity of cost to handlers for  
16 market milk within any marketing area. However, no minimum  
17 prices established or determined under this chapter shall be invalid  
18 because uniformity of cost to handlers for market milk in any  
19 marketing area is not achieved as a result of the minimum producer  
20 prices so established or determined.

21 (c) Authorize and enable the secretary to formulate stabilization  
22 and marketing plans, subject to the limitations prescribed in this  
23 chapter with respect to the contents of the stabilization and  
24 marketing plans, and to declare the plans in effect for any  
25 marketing area.

26 (d) Enable the dairy industry, with the aid of the state, to develop  
27 and maintain satisfactory marketing conditions, bring about and  
28 maintain a reasonable amount of stability and prosperity in the  
29 production of market milk, and provide means for conducting  
30 educational and research activities.

31 ~~SEC. 6.~~

32 *SEC. 9.* Section 62211 of the Food and Agricultural Code is  
33 amended to read:

34 62211. (a) (1) Every handler subject to the provisions of any  
35 stabilization and marketing plan, including a producer-handler,  
36 shall deduct as an assessment from payments made to producers  
37 for market milk, including the handler's own production, the sum  
38 of one and six-tenths cents (\$0.016) per hundredweight of market  
39 milk.

1 (2) The amount of the assessments so deducted shall be paid to  
2 the secretary on or before the 45th day following the last day of  
3 the month during which such market milk was received.

4 (b) (1) Every handler subject to the provisions of any  
5 stabilization and marketing plan that purchases or handles market  
6 milk from producers, including the handler’s own production, if  
7 any, shall pay a fee of eight-tenths of one cent (\$0.008) per  
8 hundredweight of market milk.

9 (2) The amount of such fee shall be paid to the secretary on or  
10 before the 45th day following the last day of the month in which  
11 that market milk was received.

12 (c) Moneys from the amounts paid to the secretary pursuant to  
13 subdivisions (a) and (b) may be used to administer and enforce  
14 this chapter.

15 *SEC. 10. Section 51203 of the Government Code is amended*  
16 *to read:*

17 51203. (a) The assessor shall determine the current fair market  
18 value of the land as if it were free of the contractual restriction  
19 pursuant to Section 51283. The Department of Conservation or  
20 the landowner, also referred to in this section as “parties,” may  
21 provide information to assist the assessor to determine the value.  
22 Any information provided to the assessor shall be served on the  
23 other party, unless the information was provided at the request of  
24 the assessor, and would be confidential under law if required of  
25 an assessee.

26 (b) Within 45 days of receiving the assessor’s notice pursuant  
27 to subdivision (a) of Section 51283 or Section 51283.4, if the  
28 Department of Conservation or the landowner believes that the  
29 current fair market valuation certified pursuant to subdivision (b)  
30 of Section 51283 or Section 51283.4 is not accurate, the department  
31 or the landowner may request formal review from the county  
32 assessor in the county considering the petition to cancel the  
33 contract. The department or the landowner shall submit to the  
34 assessor and the other party the reasons for believing the valuation  
35 is not accurate and the additional information the requesting party  
36 believes may substantiate a recalculation of the property valuation.  
37 The assessor may recover his or her reasonable costs of the formal  
38 review from the party requesting the review, and may provide an  
39 estimate of those costs to the requesting party. The recovery of  
40 these costs from the department may be deducted by the city or

1 county from cancellation fees received pursuant to this chapter  
2 ~~prior to~~ *before* transmittal to the Controller for deposit in the Soil  
3 Conservation Fund. The assessor may require a deposit from the  
4 landowner to cover the contingency that payment of a cancellation  
5 fee will not necessarily result from the completion of a formal  
6 review. This subdivision shall not be construed as a limitation on  
7 the authority provided in Section 51287 for cities or counties to  
8 recover their costs in the cancellation process, except that the  
9 assessor's costs of conducting a formal review shall not be borne  
10 by the nonrequesting party.

11 (1) If no request is made within 45 days of receiving notice by  
12 certified mail of the valuation, the assessor's valuation shall be  
13 used to calculate the fee.

14 (2) Upon receiving a request for formal review, the assessor  
15 shall formally review his or her valuation if, based on the  
16 determination of the assessor, the information may have a material  
17 effect on valuation of the property. The assessor shall notify the  
18 parties that the formal review is being undertaken and that  
19 information to aid the assessor's review shall be submitted within  
20 30 days of the date of the notice to the parties. Any information  
21 submitted to the assessor shall be served on the other party who  
22 shall have 30 days to respond to that information to the assessor.  
23 If the response to the assessor contains new information, the party  
24 receiving that response shall have 20 days to respond to the  
25 assessor as to the new information. All submittals and responses  
26 to the assessor shall be served on the other party by personal service  
27 or an affidavit of mailing. The assessor shall avoid *ex parte* contacts  
28 during the formal review and shall report any such contacts to the  
29 department and the landowner at the same time the review is  
30 complete. The assessor shall complete the review no later than 120  
31 days of receiving the request.

32 (3) At the conclusion of the formal review, the assessor shall  
33 either revise the cancellation valuation or determine that the  
34 original cancellation valuation is accurate. The assessor shall send  
35 the revised valuation or notice of the determination that the  
36 valuation is accurate to the department, the landowner, and the  
37 board or council considering the petition to cancel the contract.  
38 The assessor shall include a brief narrative of what consideration  
39 was given to the items of information and responses directly  
40 relating to the cancellation value submitted by the parties. The

1 assessor shall give no consideration to a party's information or  
2 response that was not served on the other party. If the assessor  
3 denies a formal review, a brief narrative shall be provided to the  
4 parties indicating the basis for the denial, if requested.

5 (c) For purposes of this section, the valuation date of any revised  
6 valuation pursuant to formal review or following judicial challenge  
7 shall remain the date of the assessor's initial valuation, or his or  
8 her initial recomputation pursuant to Section 51283.4. For purposes  
9 of cancellation fee calculation in a tentative cancellation as  
10 provided in Section 51283, or in a recomputation for final  
11 cancellation as provided in Section 51283.4, a cancellation value  
12 shall be considered current for one year after its determination and  
13 certification by the assessor.

14 (d) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the  
15 department and the landowner may agree on a cancellation  
16 valuation of the land. The agreed valuation shall serve as the  
17 cancellation valuation pursuant to Section 51283 or Section  
18 51283.4. The agreement shall be transmitted to the board or council  
19 considering the petition to cancel the contract.

20 (e) *If the department and landowner agree upon a cancellation*  
21 *value pursuant to subdivision (d) on a contract with a city or county*  
22 *that includes an additional cancellation fee pursuant to Section*  
23 *51240, the department shall provide a preliminary valuation to the*  
24 *county assessor of the county in which the land is located and the*  
25 *board of supervisors or the city council at least 60 days prior to*  
26 *before the effective date of the final cancellation valuation pursuant*  
27 *to subdivision (d). valuation. The preliminary valuation shall*  
28 *include a description of the rationale and facts considered by the*  
29 *department in determining the cancellation value. The assessor*  
30 *may provide comments on the preliminary valuation to the board*  
31 *of supervisors or city council. The board of supervisors or city*  
32 *council may provide comments on the preliminary valuation and*  
33 *cancellation value, if submitted, to the department. Prior to Before*  
34 *determining the final cancellation valuation, the department shall*  
35 *consider the comments of the board or council concerning the*  
36 *preliminary valuation and cancellation valuation, if submitted.*

37 (f) This section represents the exclusive administrative procedure  
38 for appealing a cancellation valuation calculated pursuant to this  
39 section. The Department of Conservation shall represent the  
40 interests of the state in the administrative and judicial remedies

- 1 for challenging the determination of a cancellation valuation or
- 2 cancellation fee.

O